RHOOSE

Meet local businesses providing great service

LEFT: The Six Bells in Penmark is noted for a great dining experience with locally produced food, including its specially sourced beef.

ABOVE: A magnificent view from the Ocean Lounge down the coast to the Knap in Barry.

ABOVE: Fontygary Inn has a great children's play area.

Coffee Time on the main road in Rhoose is a key meeting place in the village.

The FONTYGARY INN

Large Beer Garden
with newly refurbished enclosed children's play area

FATHER'S DAY
Sunday 21st June 2015
Booking essential!

Children's MEAL DEALS available

Traditional SUNDAY LUNCH served 12-5pm

Thursday Night is CURRY NIGHT
Get £2 off all home made curry meals

3 Course LUNCH Mon-Sat Only £9.95

BREAKFAST Served Saturday & Sunday 10am-12noon

Live ENTERTAINMENT on Friday & Saturday evenings

Exciting New Speed Quiz
Every Wednesday from 8.30pm.
Bring your smartphone or tablet to join in.

Visit our Facebook page or our website
www.FONTYGARYINN.com
to keep informed of all our offers, entertainment and menus.

Fonmon Road, Rhoose Tel. 01446 711221

Visit Fonmon Castle
during our public opening season to experience the wonderful rooms and fascinating history...

Public Opening:

- The Castle is open to the public from April to September – there is no need to book.
- Public opening times for individuals, families and groups of less than twelve are on Tuesdays and Wednesdays between 12pm and 5pm.
- Access is by public guided tour only and tours are at 2pm, 3pm and 4pm.
- The guided tour costs £6 per person.
- Access to the gardens and grounds is free.
- Last entrance to the garden is at 4pm.

Make a day of it and have afternoon tea at the Castle! For groups of 20 or more, we accept bookings in advance.

For more information please visit our website:
www.fonmoncastle.com
or contact us via email:
fonmon_castle@msn.com
or via phone: 01446 710206

FONMON CASTLE

Care concerns are raised after elderly woman is left on floor following fall

A Barry care company is in the spotlight after a claim it left a 92-year-old woman alone on the floor after a fall.

1st Grade Care is said to have ordered an unnamed carer to leave the elderly woman, Doris Jones, alone and proceed to her next visit – despite having raised objections and having called for an ambulance.

The carer left the door open for paramedics and left before an ambulance or relative could arrive to help Mrs Jones.

The care worker told BBC's Week in Week Out broadcast on Tuesday this week, that she had challenged the order, but was told "it's just the job".

The incident took place in 2013; Mrs Jones passed away last year.

A recent report published by the Care and Social Services Inspectorate for Wales (CSSIW), accused the company of putting service users in the Vale in "unnecessary and significant risk to their health, safety and wellbeing due to a lack of sufficient training for a high percentage of staff".

South Wales Central AM and Welsh Conservative leader, Andrew RT Davies, said there needed to be closer monitoring of companies in the care sector.

"If true, this is an unforgivable failing on the part of a company which has a responsibility of care to so many vulnerable people throughout the Vale.

"It's bad enough that carers feel rushed from appointment to appointment, but to leave an elderly lady on the floor after a serious fall is scarcely believable.

"They need to introduce procedures to enable cover to be sought in this kind of emergency.

"It's clear that companies like 1st Grade Care are not being adequately monitored and action must be taken against companies who fail to meet the required standards."

The Vale Council said it was unable to comment on individual cases, but had been in touch with the provider to address certain issues.

A spokesman said: "The Vale of Glamorgan recognises that it has a duty to ensure that its vulnerable residents eligible for domiciliary care receive the support to which they are entitled from any organisation working on our behalf.

"We also acknowledge the need to provide reassurance about how well the systems designed to ensure the quality of care received by vulnerable people in their homes work in practice.

"The role of the local authority is to closely monitor the work of care agencies who work on behalf of the council through intelligence gathered from a wide range of sources; to evaluate intelligence and to take remedial action where necessary in rectifying problems caused for individual service users."

FEEDBACK

The spokesman went on: "The council cannot comment on individual cases. However, in respect of 1st Grade Care there is strong evidence that this council has actively collated practice concerns and feedback from all parties, including service users and carers.

"Work has been undertaken with 1st Grade Care this year following a number of issues being raised with the council.

"As a result of this work, several actions were identified for the provider to undertake and an action plan was agreed. The position has continued to be monitored and there is evidence that the provider has responded to issues of concern."

He added: "We have not reached the stage where the council would consider decommissioning the care arrangements made for individual service users, given that these concerns should be balanced with the positive feedback received and the upheaval this would cause for vulnerable people."

The GEM invited 1st Grade Care to respond, but at the time of going to press, had not recieved a reply.

It's a classic encounter of the car kind!

THIS Sunday, June 14 sees the 'Barry Island free Festival of Transport' – one of south Wales' biggest gatherings of classic cars and heritage buses – take place from 10am to 5pm.

Mike Taylor, the organising group's chairman said: "The Festival of Transport now attracts a wide range of classic cars and heritage buses from all over south Wales and some from England.

"Quite amazingly, the oldest car this year is 100 years old – a Ford Model T, and we are expecting at least 50 different Ford cars from across the decades.

"The second largest group is the MG, which range from 1937 to 2006 and we have over 30 of them plus 22 Morris cars! They are a great reminder of the history of road transport. Old makes of car include: Austin, Humber, Standard, Triumph, Rover and Wolseley to name a few".

"While we are looking at 300 classic cars, we will be putting on a display of our heritage bus fleet and these together with visiting vehicles should see about another 50 or more.

"The free festival is a fun day for all the family and is a great opportunity to see the effort put in by everyone who has restored old classic cars and heritage buses," Mike added.

Free parking is available at the Barry Dock Offices car park and a free shuttle bus will be run every 15 minutes.

For more information see website: www.ctpg.co.uk.

Statement from Vale Councillor Rob Curtis

"NEARLY a year ago, I worked as a volunteer in west Wales.

Whilst bird watching one evening, I placed my hand on the leg of a woman, in what was only intended as a friendly gesture. Unfortunately, a complaint was made some months later, which led to court proceedings.

I have never denied that I placed my hand on this person's leg, but I have consistently denied any sexual motive and was prepared to fight my case in court. Subsequently, the prosecution offered a lesser charge of common assault, which I accepted in the hope to bring this stressful matter to an end; as I have never denied the act, albeit innocently.

Common assault includes any physical contact of an individual without their consent. The judgement imposed by the magistrates was a two-year conditional discharge; with no fine and minimum court fees to pay. I am relieved to find this legal process is now over.

The last few months have been a living nightmare, which has totally destroyed my public life and caused my family and friends great upset.

Once these charges were made public, some in the media (not The GEM) were prepared to print horrific headlines, which I was unable to respond to due to the pending court action.

I was pushed to the very brink, but thanks to the support of my family and friends, I was able to see that there is a brighter future.

I would also like to thank my fellow councillors and constituents of all political persuasion for their kind messages of support over the last few months. I can also confirm I have referred myself to the Local Government Ombudsman.

I very much regret the embarrassment this may have caused the organisation that I volunteered for, and I also wish to apologise to the woman who made this complaint for any upset I have caused her and her family.

It will take many months, perhaps years for me to hopefully rebuild my life but I know that with the continued support of my family and friends it can be done."